

Serial Number 09/538,731

2. Rejection of Claims 10 and 11 Under 35 USC §102(b) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,483,254 (Powell)

This rejection has been rendered moot by the amendment of claim 10 (from which claim 11 depends) to depend from claim 8 rather than claim cancelled claim 9. The Powell patent clearly does not disclose the microprism sheet, polarizers, filters, and so forth recited in independent claim 8.

3. Rejection of Claims 8 and 12 Under 35 USC §103(a) in view of U.S. Patent Nos. 4,588,259 (Sheiman), 5,896,225 (Chikazawa) and 5,483,254 (Powell)

This rejection is respectfully traversed on the grounds that none of the reference applied by the Examiner discloses or suggests a stereoscopic effects device of the type disclosed by Sheiman, in which the housing fixes the polarizing filters with respect to the other components of the device, *and* limits the field-of-view in order to eliminate the ghost problem inherent in Sheiman's system (as explained in the previous response and during an interview with Examiner Winstedt on December 18, 2001).

According to page 6 of the Official Action, Applicant's previous arguments concerning the ghosting problem and fixing of the polarizing lenses were not persuasive because "*the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., the housing cropping or masking the images so that ghost images are not visible, the housing limiting the field of view, or the housing fixing the polarized filters with respect to the other components) are not recited in the rejected claims.*" The claims have now been amended to more positively recite those features mentioned by the Examiner, and namely masking of the images and fixing of the polarized filters with respect to the other components, and therefore the rejection should be overcome since neither Sheiman, Chikazawa, nor Powell discloses those features.

Instead, Sheiman discloses an arrangement in which the polarizing filters are not fixed with respect to the other components, while Chikazawa discloses a pixel-by-pixel image-separating display that is not analogous-to, and that cannot be used in the display of Sheiman, and Powell fails to disclose any sort of stereoscopic system, much less one included in which all

Serial Number 09/538,731

of the elements can be included in a common housing as claimed. Certainly, the prior art does not include a stereoscopic video game player of the type recited in claim 10.

While it might in general be known to place different components in a common housing, it has not previously been known to place a stereoscopic effects device of the type disclose in Sheiman in a common housing, and in fact Sheiman's system is clearly not designed to be in a common housing *since the polarizing filters of Sheiman are not fixed with respect to the other elements of the system*, as is now positively recited in claim 8.

Having thus overcome each of the rejections made in the Official Action, withdrawal of the rejections and expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC



By: BENJAMIN E. URCIA
Registration No. 33,805

Date: September 9, 2002

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, 4th Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Telephone: (703) 683-0500

NWB:S:\Producer\ben\Pending 1...PMM\MYERS538731\w02j.wpd

APPENDIX B
(Marked-Up Copy Of Amended Claims)

8. (Twice Amended) A stereoscopic effects device, comprising:

an image interlacing arrangement including

[at least one] a video display [screen];

a microprism sheet including a substrate and a plurality of grooves having intersecting sides that form a v-shape, the sides of the grooves forming first and second sets of substantially planar surfaces,

wherein said sides of the grooves are respectively arranged to refract light from first and second image sources so that said light from separate first and second images on said video display screen exits said microprism sheet in parallel to form an interlaced image;

polarizers situated between said video display [screen] and said microprism sheet; and

polarized filters situated between said microprism sheet and respective left and right eyes of a person and fixed with respect to said polarizers, microprism sheet, and video display,

wherein said at least one video display screen, microprism sheet, polarizers, and polarized filters are situated in a common housing, said housing limiting a field-of-view of said person so that only an image displayed on the video display is visible to the person through the polarized filters.

10. (Amended) A stereoscopic effects device as claimed in claim [9] 8, wherein said housing is a housing of a handheld video game player.